

09/744916

JCO2 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 JAN 2001

PATENT APPLICATION

1960.236

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
DONALD R. RICCI, ET AL.)
Application No.: NYA)
Filed: January 31, 2001)
For: SMALL VESSEL EXPANDABLE)
STENT AND METHOD FOR)
PRODUCTION OF SAME)

Pre/A
#5
NDB
20-31-01

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, kindly amend
the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel Claims 1-31 without prejudice

Kindly add Claims 32-55 as follows:

*Initials B2
at*
-32. An unexpanded stent comprising a proximal
end and a distal end in communication with one another, a
tubular wall disposed between the proximal end and the distal
end, the tubular wall having a longitudinal axis and a porous
surface defined by a plurality of interconnecting struts, the
stent being expandable upon the application of a radially
outward force thereon to undergo plastic deformation to a